

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 229555

14

ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 OES-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICH

APPROVED BY:IO/SA -JCAHILL

OES - MR.ADLER (INFO)

----- 034462

O 161940Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229555

FOR USDEL TO IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING REPEAT IAEA VIENNA 5048 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO LONDON,
OSLO, BONN, PARIS, TOKYO, BRUSSELS, PRAGUE, BERLIN, STOCKHOLM,
THE HAGUE, ROME, MOSCOW, EC BRUSSELS DTD 16 JUN 76

153: C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 5048
DEPT PASS TO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM TECH IAFA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL PLUTONIUM MANAGEMENT

REF: STATE 142225

1. SUMMARY. IN CALL ON DG EKLUND JUNE 15, I CARRIED
OUT INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL. EKLUND APPEARED
RECEPTIVE AND GAVE ASSURANCE HE WOULD RAISE MATTER AT
FIRST STAFF MEETING FOLLOWING BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SESSION WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING SMALL STUDY GROUP OF
ABOUT THREE PEOPLE. HE WOULD MAKE AN INTERIM REPORT TO
GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER AND WOULD HOPE
COMPLETE STUDY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT IN ANY
EVENT NOT LATER THAN COMPLETION REG ENAL NUCLEAR
FUEL CYCLE CENTER (RNFCC) SGUDY. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 229555

2. ACCOMPANIED BY STONE AND BENGELSDORF, I CALLED ON DG EKLUND JUNE 15, TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL. EKLUND ALSO HAD FISCHER PRESENT. (IN SEPARATE DISCUSSION WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL ROMETSCH, BENGELSDORF AND LABOWITZ GAVE HIM GENERAL RUNDOWN ON THE IMPORTANCE THE U.S. ASCRIBED TO SEEING THE PLUTONIUM STORAGE CONCEPT PROMPTLY AND AFFIRMATIVELY EXAMINED BY THE SECRETARIAT.) IN INTRODUCING SUBJECT, I CITED THE INCREASED U.S. INTEREST BEING FOCUSSED ON THE KEY POINTS IN THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE CAUSING CONCERN FROM A NON-PROLIFERATION STANDPOINT. IDEALLY, PLUTONIUM IS BEST STORED AS IRRADIATED FUEL SINCE IN SUCH EVENT IT IS IN EFFECT LOCKED UP. I ALSO RECALLED OUR EFFORTS TO DISCOURAGE THE SPREAD OF REPROCESSING FACILITIES AND NOTED THAT IT WOULD FOSTER NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES TO KEEP THE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL GOING THROUGH THE REPROCESSING CHAIN TO THE MINIMUM. HOWEVER, NOTWITHSTANDING THESE EFFORTS I NOTED THAT WE EXPECTED THAT SOME REPROCESSING IS "ALMOST INEVITABLE" OVER THE LONG HAUL, THAT THERE WILL BE SOME SIZABLE ACCUMULATIONS OF EXCESS PLUTONIUM AND THAT THEREFORE ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE CONSTRAINTS IN THE PLUTONIUM MANAGEMENT AREA WERE IN ORDER.

3. OUR OBJECTIVE, ACCORDINGLY, WAS TO MINIMIZE AMOUNTS OF PLUTONIUM IN INTERNATIONAL CUSTODY. ARTICLE XII 45 MAKES PROVISION FOR AGENCY STORAGE OF PLUTONIUM IN EXCESS OF CURRENT CIVIL NEEDS. WE WERE ASKING SECRETARIAT TO UNDERTAKE TWO STUDY THIS PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO REMOVING SUSPICIONS OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONS OR POTENTIALLY DESTABILIZING SITUATIONS BY REDUCING THE NATIONAL STOCKPILES OF PLUTONIUM.

4. I NOTED THAT WE BELIEVE THE IAEA STUDY SHOULD LOOK AT BOTH REGIMES FOR MANAGEMENT OF IRRADIATED MATERIAL AND FOR REPROCESSED SEPARATED PLUTONIUM, AND THAT WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A REGIME WOULD BE MORE AMENABLE TO A NON-DISCRIMINATORY APPROACH THAN WOULD EVEN THE RNFCC. WE ALSO NOTED THAT AN INTERNATIONAL STORAGE REGIME, UNDER IAEA AUSPICES COULD BE MARRIED WITH A VARIETY OF REPROCESSING REGIMES INCLUDING NATIONAL PLANTS (SHOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 229555

SUCH DEVELOP DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS) OR WITH THE MULTINATIONAL FUEL CENTER CONCEPT. ALSO, THE PROPOSITION OF HAVING THE IAEA ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR STORAGE OF IRRADIATED FUEL COULD BE A USEFUL FIRST STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE RNFCC CONCEPT AND COULD REINFORCE OUR GENERAL EFFORTS TO DEFER REPROCESSING UNTIL IT PROVES ECONOMICALLY ESSENTIAL.

5. WHEN ASKED HOW HE ENVISAGED SUCH STUDY

PROCEEDING, OR, EKLUND PROPOSED TO ESTABLISH A SMALL COMMITTEE OF ABOUT THREE PEOPLE TO STUDY THE QUESTION FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES BASED UNDER CERTAIN ASSUMPTIONS: COMMITTEE WOULD REVIEW: (A) THE LEGALITY UNDER THE AGENCY STATUTE (WHICH EKLUND THOUGHT WAS NOT AN ISSUE); (B) HOW SUCH REGIME SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED FROM THE PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW; (C) WHAT IT WOULD REQUIRE FROM THE PHYSICAL SECURITY STANDPOINT; (D) STAFFING REQUIREMENTS; (E) ESTIMATED COSTS; AND (F) HOW INSTALLATION WOULD RELATE TO COUNTRY IN WHICH STORAGE LOCATED. THE DG DID NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE HE NEEDED A MANDATE FROM THE BOARD TO PROCEED WITH THIS ANALYSIS.

6. EKLUND FELT STRONGLY STUDY SHOULD BE SEPARATE FROM RNECC. HE ALSO BELIEVED THAT THE ANALYSIS WOULD HAVE TO FOCUS ON POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONAL CHARACTER OF REGIME TO BE ESTABLISHED. WE ALL AGREED THAT THE SECRETARIAT'S EFFORTS, SHOULD THEY PROVE PROMISING, WOULD HAVE TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY SUITABLE "FORCING" MECHANISMS ON THE PART OF THE MEMBER STATES, INCLUDING THE SUPPLIERS, TO INDUCE WIDESPREAD PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A REGIME.

7. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON TIMING, DG ENVISAGED THAT STUDY WOULD BE COMPLETED BY TIME RNFCC STUDY FINISHED, OR EARLIER. WHEN PRESSED FOR MORE RAPID ACTION, HE INDICATED WILLINGNESS MAKE REPORT ON STATUS OF STUDY TO GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER BUT WAS UNPREPARED MAKE ANY MORE DEFINITE COMMITMENT AT THIS TIME. HE GAVE ASSURANCE HE WOULD RAISE SUBJECT AT FIRST STAFF MEETING FOLLOWING BOARD OF GOVERNORS SESSION AND GET STUDY UNDER CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 229555

WAY SOONEST. STUDY COMMITTEE WOULD BE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM LEGAL DIVISION, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND SAFEGUARDS. WHEN I SUGGESTED HE MIGHT WISH TO CALL ON U.S. PERSONNEL TO TAKE PLACE SOMETIME IN AUGUST. HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE LIAISE WITH RNFCC STUDY. BENGELSDORF HELD SUBSEQUENT BRIEFING MEETING WITH FISCHER TO DISCUSS IN FURTHER DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE DETAILED QUESTIONS THAT THE IAEA MIGHT WISH TO EXAMINE IN ITS EFFORTS. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT APPROACH THE TOPIC BY FRAMING TWO ALTERNATIVE REGIMES--ONE TO APPLY TO IRRADIATED FUEL AND ONE TO SEPARATED PLUTONIUM. APART FROM PREPARING A DESCRIPTION OF SOME ILLUSTRATIVE MODEL DEPOSITORIES IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE STUDY CONSIDER THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENTS TO BE CONCLUDED WITH THE PLUTONIUM DONATING STATE (INCLUDING THE VOICE THE IAEA

SHOULD HAVE IN DETERMINING WHEN AND IN WHAT
FORM MATERIAL SHOULD BE RETURNED FROM STORAGE),
AND THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT THAT MIGHT BE
CONCLUDED WITH A HOST OF A DEPOSITORY. MOREOVER,
IT WAS AGREED THAT THE STUDY ALSO WOULD HAVE TO
CONSIDER VARIOUS OPTIONAL APPROACHES FOR DEALING
WITH SUCH PROBLEMS AS LIABILITY, TRANSPORTATION,
MODES OF FINANCING, ETC. TAPE UNQTE: HABIB

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLUTONIUM, NUCLEAR ENERGY, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE229555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760350-0688
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760952/aaaabsgz.tel
Line Count: 177
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 142225
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL PLUTONIUM MANAGEMENT
TAGS: PARM, TECH, US, BR, IAFA
To: RIO DE JANEIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006